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EXAMINER

DELCOTTO, GREGORY R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1751

DATE MAILED: 08/11/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

09/935,982

**Applicant(s)**

EVANS ET AL.

**Examiner**

Gregory R. Del Cotto

**Art Unit**

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on RCE filed 5/17/05.  
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.  
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-29 and 34-39 is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
6) ☒ Claim(s) 30-33 and 40 is/are rejected.  
7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 5/17/05.  
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.  
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 1-40 are pending. Applicant's arguments and amendments filed 5/17/05 have been entered.

Claims 1-29 and 34-39 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on 8/16/04.

#### ***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 5/17/05 has been entered.

#### **Objections/Rejections Withdrawn**

The following objections/rejection(s) as set forth in the Office action mailed 11/17/04 have been withdrawn:

The rejection of claims 30-32 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Maes et al (US 5,366,651) has been withdrawn.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact

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terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 30-33 and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

With respect to claim 30, the specification as originally filed, provides no basis for "to achieve a concentration of the polyhydric alcohol that is between 1/99 and 3/7 of the weight of the ethylene glycol...". Specifically, this statement appears to be inaccurate in that it appears that Applicant should be claiming a ratio of polyhydric alcohol to ethylene glycol. Furthermore, the specification provides no basis for "3/7" as recited by claims 30. This is deemed new matter. Note that, claims 31-33 and 40 have also been rejected due to their dependency on claim 30.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

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(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 30-32 and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by WO 89/09806.

'806 teaches a coolant composition containing an alkylene glycol such as propylene glycol, a corrosion inhibitor combination of an azole such as tolyltriazole, a molybdate salt and phosphoric acid, and less than 10% by weight water. See Abstract. The composition contains at least 90 weight percent of an alkylene glycol or a mixture of two or more alkylene glycols and a corrosion inhibiting amount of an inhibitor. This embodiment contains no water. See page 3, lines 1-15. Suitable alkylene glycols

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include ethylene glycol, propylene glycol, glycerol, and mixtures thereof. See page 3, line 30 to page 4, line 12.

Specifically, '806 teaches a coolant composition containing 30 parts propylene glycol, 70 parts ethylene glycol, less than 1 part of water, 0.25 parts azole, 0.15 parts molybdate, and 0.075 parts phosphoric acid. See page 9. Note that, on page 28, lines 15-20 of the instant specification, Applicant states that even though the compositions may be non-aqueous, small amounts of water in amounts of about 0.5% may be included in the composition; compositions containing a low amount of water are specifically taught by '806. Note that, the Examiner asserts that the composition as specifically taught by '806 would inherently have the same reduced oral toxicity as recited by the instant claims because it teaches mixtures containing ethylene glycol and propylene glycol in the same proportions as recited by the instant claims. '806 discloses the claimed invention with sufficient specificity to constitute anticipation.

Accordingly, the teachings of '806 anticipate the material limitations of the instant claims.

Claim 33 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over WO 89/09806.

'806 is relied upon as set forth above. However, '806 does not teach, with sufficient specificity, a method of reducing the oral toxicity of nonaqueous fluids containing ethylene glycol by mixing with ethylene glycol a specific polyhydric alcohol such as glycerol in the specific proportions as recited by the instant claims.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to reduce the oral toxicity of nonaqueous fluids containing ethylene glycol by mixing with ethylene glycol a specific polyhydric alcohol such as glycerol in the specific proportions as recited by the instant claims, with a reasonable expectation of success, because the teaching of '806 suggest reducing the oral toxicity of nonaqueous fluids containing ethylene glycol by mixing with ethylene glycol a specific polyhydric alcohol such as glycerol in the specific proportions as recited by the instant claims.

Claims 30-33 and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Meyer et al (US 5,118,434) or Maes et al (US 5,366,651).

Meyer et al teach antifreeze fluids containing 50 to 99 percent by weight of one or more glycols, 0.001 to 15 percent by weight of one or more corrosion inhibitors, 25 to 2500 parts of a polymeric additive, and optionally, up to 50 percent by weight of water. See column 1, line 50 to column 2, line 5. Suitable glycols include ethylene glycol, propylene glycol, etc. See column 2, lines 40-60.

Maes et al teach antifreeze concentrates containing a water-soluble liquid alcohol freezing point depressant and a corrosion inhibitor comprising carboxylic acids or their salts and a triazole compound. See column 2, lines 55-69. Suitable freeze point depressants include glycols such as ethylene glycol, propylene glycols, etc.

Note that, the Examiner asserts that the broad teachings of Meyer et al or Maes et al would suggest compositions having reduced toxicity because Meyer et al or Maes et al suggest compositions containing the same components in the same proportions as recited by the instant claims.



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Meyer et al or Maes et al do not teach, with sufficient specificity, a method of reducing the oral toxicity of nonaqueous fluids containing ethylene glycol by mixing with ethylene glycol a specific diol such as propylene glycol in the specific proportions as recited by the instant claims.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to reduce the oral toxicity of nonaqueous fluids containing ethylene glycol by mixing with ethylene glycol a specific diol such as propylene glycol in the specific proportions as recited by the instant claims, with a reasonable expectation of success, because the teaching of Meyer et al or Maes et al suggest reducing the oral toxicity of nonaqueous fluids containing ethylene glycol by mixing with ethylene glycol a specific diol such as propylene glycol in the specific proportions as recited by the instant claims.

Claims 30-33 and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wood (US 4,455,248).

Wood teaches a specific combination of corrosion inhibitors for glycol-based antifreeze formulations which provides protection of aluminum from corrosion under high temperature service conditions without sacrificing the corrosion protection of other metals or the other properties required of suitable antifreeze formulations. Suitable glycols include ethylene glycol, propylene glycol, glycerol, etc., and mixtures thereof. See column 2, lines 47-69. The composition optionally contains water and for convenience in handling and storage, the antifreeze may be formulated as a concentrate containing little or no water. Clearly, Wood teaches compositions that may

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be non-aqueous. Even if the composition does contain water, Wood teaches that the composition may contain as little as 0.1 parts by weight of water for every 100 parts by weight of said alcohol which would fall within the amount of water permissible by the definition of "non-aqueous" given on page 28 of the specification.

Note that, the Examiner asserts that the broad teachings Wood would suggest compositions having reduced toxicity because Wood suggests compositions containing the same components in the same proportions as recited by the instant claims.

Wood does not teach, with sufficient specificity, a method of reducing the oral toxicity of nonaqueous fluids containing ethylene glycol by mixing with ethylene glycol a specific diol such as propylene glycol in the specific proportions as recited by the instant claims.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to reduce the oral toxicity of nonaqueous fluids containing ethylene glycol by mixing with ethylene glycol a specific diol such as propylene glycol in the specific proportions as recited by the instant claims, with a reasonable expectation of success, because the teachings of Wood suggests reducing the oral toxicity of nonaqueous fluids containing ethylene glycol by mixing with ethylene glycol a specific diol such as propylene glycol in the specific proportions as recited by the instant claims.

### ***Double Patenting***

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA

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1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

Claims 30-33 and 40 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-13 of copending Application No. 10/264041, claims 1-10 of 10/347900, claims 27-50 of 10/910497 and claims 22-29 of 10/935897. Note that with respect to claims 9-13 of 10/347900 and claims 22-29 of 10/935897, although these claims recite "aqueous" the term "non-aqueous" as defined in the instant specification as allowing for the presence of some water which would fall within the normal meaning of "aqueous" as recited by claims 9-13 of 10/347900 and claims 22-29 of 10/935897. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because claims 1-13 of copending Application No. 10/264041, claims 1-10 of 10/347900, claims 27-50 of 10/910497 and claims 22-29 of 10/935897 encompass the material limitations of the instant claims.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to reduce the oral toxicity of aqueous fluids containing ethylene glycol by mixing with ethylene glycol a specific diol such as propylene glycol in the specific proportions as recited by the instant claims, with a reasonable expectation of success, because claims 1-13 of copending Application No. 10/264041, claims 1-10 of

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10/347900, claims 27-50 of 10/910497 and claims 22-29 of 10/935897 suggest reducing the oral toxicity of aqueous fluids containing ethylene glycol by mixing with ethylene glycol a specific diol such as propylene glycol in the specific proportions as recited by the instant claims.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

### ***Response to Arguments***

With respect to Maes et al, Applicant states that this reference does not describe a method for reducing the oral toxicity of an ethylene glycol based heat transfer fluid by adding a second glycol as recited by the instant claims. Additionally, Applicant states that it is a mere possibility that the compositions as taught by Maes et al might have reduced toxicity as recited by the instant claims. In response, note that, the Examiner asserts that Maes et al clearly suggests compositions having the same reduced toxicity as the recited by the instant claims because Maes et al suggest compositions containing the same components in the same proportions as recited by the instant claims. Additionally, although Maes et al do not make specific mention of reduced toxicity properties, the reason or motivation to modify the reference may often suggest what the inventor has done, but for a different purpose or to solve a different problem. It is not necessary that the prior art suggest the combination to achieve the same advantage or result discovered by applicant. See MPEP 2144; In re Linter, 458 F.2d 1013, 173 USPQ 560 (CCPA 1972).

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Furthermore, Applicant states that on pages 20-26 of the specification, unexpected and superior results of the claimed invention are shown with respect to toxicity. The Examiner asserts that this data is insufficient to overcome the prior art rejections applied above. It is unclear to the Examiner exactly what unexpected results are being shown; it seems that one of ordinary skill in the art would reasonable expect that the toxicity of ethylene glycol would be reduced when combined with propylene glycol since propylene glycol is much less toxic than ethylene glycol. Thus, the data does not appear to show any unexpected and superior results but just merely shoes what would be expected. Additionally, a rejection under 35 USC 102 has been made under WO 89/9806 as set forth above and secondary considerations are not sufficient to overcome rejections under 35 USC 102.

### ***Conclusion***

2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Remaining references cited but not relied upon are considered to be cumulative to or less pertinent than those relied upon or discussed above.


Applicant is reminded that any evidence to be presented in accordance with 37 CFR 1.131 or 1.132 should be submitted before final rejection in order to be considered timely.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gregory R. Del Cotto whose telephone number is (571) 272-1312. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. thru Fri. from 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Yogendra Gupta can be reached on (571) 272-1316. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Gregory R. Del Cotto  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1751

GRD  
August 8, 2005